A WAITING ATTITUDE

exploded inside of the ship pierced a hole of that kind in the outer skin, but that would be readily revealed by the character of the angle, and whether or not the skin was bulged in or out around the puncture. It is more likely, if there is any hole at all of the kind, that it is simply the outlet of one of the numerous pipes from the inside of the Maine.

Secretary Long positively denies that government Takes This Position Regarding Maine Disaster.

COURT OF INQUIRY FORMED

It Will Immediately Proceed to Make a Full Investigation.

COAL-BUNKER THEORY OF EXPLOSION This Has Many More Strong Support-

Those Who Escape Injury.

THE WOUNDED DOING WELL

This Applies to Those at Habana and

Those at Key West Also.

ele for Life on the Lost Ship.

WASHINGTON, February 17 .- The gov-

The officials at the Naval Department

e lists of the living and the dead; to

swering frantic telegraphic appeals

rom relatives of men on the battleship

nd last, but not least, in meeting with

awavering courtesy and patience the

necessary-food,

elicacies, hired nurses, and physicians.

West will be taken care of in the Marine

Hospital there. The sound survivors will

o quartered in the spate army barracks

As for the Maine herself, notwithstand-

ing discouraging reports from Lieutenant

Hood as to her condition, the Navy De-

partment will make an effort to raise

ber. While this is required by every

creditable sentiment, they say that they

are bound to remove the hull from the

small harbor, in any case, and it may be

s easy or easier to raise her as it would

e to destroy the hull and machinery

slowly, by the use of divers and dyna-

mite. It is believed that this work can

lest be done by private wrecking cor

porations, and negotiations are already

afoot for placing the contract, based on

work by the day, at an estimated cost

NO TORPEDO-BOATS FOR CUBA.

At the Navy Department specific denial

was given of the report emanating from

Madrid that a torpedo flotilla was about

to leave Key West for Cuba. It was

ctuted that only two torpedo-boats, the

Cushing and Erlesson, are at Key West.

These have not been ordered, and will

not be ordered, according to present plans,

to Cuba. It was also asserted that no

present purpose exists of sending any

Senor Du Bosc, the Spanish charge, had

received no instructions up to 6 P. M.

as to going to New York and stopping the

Spanish ship Vizcaya from entering the

port, and reports to this effect were dis-

The air of suppressed excitement which characterized the movements of the em-

ployees and visitors at the White House

during the morning hours, and for a considerable time in the middle of the day

the White House bore an almost deserted appearance. Only a limited number of

appearance. Only a limited number of members of Congress called during the

rning, and the interviews were brief.

Postmaster-General Gary was the only

member of the Cabinet who called, and

his business related entirely to depart-

Assistant-Secretary Day saw the Presi-

dent for a few minutes, but he had no-thing of importance to communicate, ex-cept that he carried to the White House

So far as could be learned, the only in-

formation as to the situation in Habana

formation as to the situation that reached the President direct came

through the Associated Press. On the

ment than yesterday, when the peop were loth to believe that under the cit

be traced to other than Spanish sources.

cluding those on the Capitol and the partment buildings, are flying at hi

umstances the loss of the Maine could

All the flags throughout the city, in

partment buildings, are flying at half-mast to-day, and among the others is conspicuously that of "Cuba Libre," which files from the staff on the Hotel Raleigh,

NO PERCUSSION HOLE.

A builetin from Key West was received here this morning, to the effect that divers had found an 8-inch percussion hole

in the bottom of the Maine; also, that all proofs of the torpedo work will be re-

such thing as a percussion hole; that there is no seinch torpedo, and there is no

te is, of course, possible that a shell

The Navy Department absolute

the headquarters of the Cuban Junta.

De Lome letter incident.

bere were comparatively few visitors

of \$200,000.

warship there.

clothing

pipes from the inside of the Maine.
Secretary Long positively denies that Captain Sigsbee has in any suppressed telegram expressed the opinion that a torpedo caused the disaster, or that it came from an external cause. The captain said, on the contrary, that he could not venture to express an opinion.

The Key West builtetin regarding the finding of a hole in the bottom of a plate of the Maine, and referring to the work of a torpedo, was sent to the White House by the Associated Press, and was shown to President McKinley. His only comment was that it was the first he had heard of it.

The President does not wish to make The President does not wish to make any statement concerning reports that come regarding the disaster, but he permitted the fact to be known that the administration had no advices tending to confirm the Key West report. ers Than Any Other. MUSTER-ROLL OF THE MAINE.

The Navy Department received a dispatch this morning from Admiral Sicard, in command of the North Atlantic squadron, giving the detail of the court of enquiry to investigate the Maine disaster, as follows: List of the Dead, the Wounded, and s follows

COURT OF INQUIRY,

Captain Sampson, president of the court; aptain Chadwick, Lieutenant-Com-nander Schroeder, Lieutenant-Command-

Captain Sampson, the president of the sourt, is commander of the battleship lower now at the Tortugas, Captain Chad-BURIAL OF THE DEAD IN HABANA. wick is commander of the New York, at Key West. Lieutenant Commander Schroeder is executive officer of the battle-An Imposing Funeral Processionship Massachusetts, now at the Tortugas, deutenant-Commander Manix is execu-ive officer of the Vermont. He was apparently Profound Popular Reformerly with the Maine as executive officer, before the detail of Lieutenantspect-General Lee's Story of Strugommander Wainwright, who relieved

Admiral Sleard's board has ample authority to make the most searching in vestigation into the cause of the disaster. ement has settled back into a waiting as arriving at Habana last evening. tus, and as every warship's company inthere will be no lack of men to make the pended upon to report the exact facts particular, and as they are familiar with the bottom of a warship of the type the Maine, they are not likely to be led hole of a pipe from the interior to be a torpedo hole It is believed that under the most fa-

vorable circumstances this investigation cannot be made for several days. Lieutenant-Commander Manix, who will

Lieutenant-Commander Manix, who will be a member of the court of inquiry, left Washington at 11 o'clock to-day by train for Key West, and he is supposed to be assigned to duty as judge-advocate of the court.

The Navel Committee, but most of the subject has not yet been considered in Navel Committee. in the shape of Captain Sigs-'s report of the funeral of his dead illors, and General Lee's graphic story the terrible struggle for life in the

again stated to-day that the Navy Devoted the day to an effort to correct partment has no intention of sending another man-of-war to Habana immediately.

CAUSE OF THE DISASTER.

General fear is expressed by the older officers at the Navy Department that the destruction of the Maine has been so complete, at least in the forward potion of the ship, where the explosion is believed to have occurred, that it would be perhaps impossible to find sufficient evidence in the wreck of the hull to be able to declare with certainty the cause of the disaster. It may be said, however, news from Habana as to the appearance of the wreck, or in the conflicting stories of the majority of the officers stationed in the Navy Department that the Maine sank as the result of an internal ex-

As to the origin of this explosion, there is still a wide difference of opinion, but the coal-bunker theory to-day finds very nany more strong supporters than any other theory. This theory is based on the supposition that spontaneous comthe Maine are separated from the magazine forward by a single thin partition of iron, ignited the magazine, and cause the destruction of the vessel. Proofs of similar fires on other vessels of the navy are being produced in proof at the Navy

Department to-day.

Captain Royal Bradford to-day proouced the quarterly report required by
regulations, to show exactly the state of the Maine's coal supply and the quality of the coal. At the end of December the vessel had only fifty-two tons of coal in her bunkers. This was made up of Pocahontas and New river coal,

Captain Bradford said that Pocahontas is the standard naval coal, and is rated at 100. New river follows next, and is set down at 90 per cent. These are semi-bituminous coals of a quality closely ap-proaching that of the celebrated Welsh navigating coal, the British naval stand-

In the opinion of Captain Bradford neither of these coals is particularly subject to spontaneous combustion. Since the Maine had been in the Gulf of Mexico, however, she had probably consumo a good part of this coal, and had re-plenished her stock from the naval store at the Key West station. The coal there taken on was anthracite, which, Captain Bradford said, "is no more subject to spontaneous combustion than a pile of

The Maine took on 280 tons of this coal in December, and in January, before she left for Habana, she loaded up with 271 tons more. This coal at Key West is kept behind a picket fence, very much exposed to any evil-minded person who might desire to conceal a bomb therein; something which could only be effected with great difficulty after the coal was stored in the bunkers.

DISCIPLINE IN OUR NAVY.

In spite of the British reflections upon the discipline on American warships, the officers here do not hesitate to say that in the matter of careful inspection of coal-bunkers, magazines, and the like, our navy is second to none in the world. Captain-General Blanco to-day cabled to Senor Du Bosc, charge of the Spanish egation, giving the formal action of the Insular Government of Cuba, expressing to the President of the United States profound sorrow over the catastrophe to the Maine and the resulting loss of life to Americans. At the same time, the Al-calde, or Mayor, of Habana, sent resolutions of the municipality, expressing to the President the grief of the authoriofficial information of the closing of the

to the President the grief of the authorities and the people of Habana. Senor Du Bosc presented the dispatches to the Assistant Secretary Day, who laid them before President McKinley.

In execution of the decision of the President, last evening to have a national observance of mourning, the following order was to-day communicated by telegraph from the War Department to commanding officers of the army:

ing officers of the army:
"As appropriate honors to the deceased
in the recent loss of the battleship Maine,
the President directs that flags at all army headquarters and military posts, and on army buildings, be displayed from survise to sunset at half-staff, until fur-"SAMUEL BECK. (Signed)

"Adjutant-General." Secretary Long to-day directed that dispatches be sent to the commandants of naval stations and the chief officers of naval stations and the chief officers of United States vessels throughout the world, to display all flags at half-mast until further orders, as a mark of respect to the officers and men drowned from the battleship Maine.

Admiral Sicard telegraphed Secretary Long from Key West as follows:

"In the opinion of Lieutenant John Hood, of the Maine, who has just arrived

discredits this story.

Secretary Long says that there is no Secretary Long says that ther way in which such a hole could

from Habana, the Maine can never again be utilized as a ship. He describes the whole torward body of the ship as com-pletely collapsed, where the shock of the explosion was the heaviest. Photographs of the wreck will be sent to the depart-ment to-day." THEIR PROPOSED PROTECTION

FROM GENERAL LEE. The State Department this evening received the following dispatch from Cosul-General Lee:

"Habana, February 17.-Assistant-Secretary Day, Wishington: Merritt, in junio officers' mess-room; Jenking in ward-roo om at the time of the explosion Latter left before an officer, who was saved. Must have gone the wrong way Lights out immediately, and water rush ing in. Merritt got to hatch with Naval Cadet Boyd. Ladder gone. Boyd climb ed through and tried to pull Merritt up but latter by but latter let go his hands, fell back, an was drowned. Bodies of these officers not yet found; possibly in wreck. Sailors' funeral to-day at 3. Will be an immense

the Navy Department at 3:35 this after-noon from Captain Sigsbee, at Habana: "Secretary Long, Washington: General Blanco called on me personally at he hotel last night, and also the Mayor of the city. They have requested me to the city. They have requested me permit the government here to give public burial to the dead already foun public burial to the dead already foun in order that public sympathy may b been secured. Is it assumed that I am expected by the department to bury the dead here? In fact, would be impracticable to transport remains to the United States. Facilities are lacking. I have accepted the offer of the authorities, and there will be a public funeral at 3 o'clock to-day. All here from the Maine will go: also, a delegation from the Fern. Fifteen rations prevented by rough weather. INTEREST AMONG CONGRESSMEN

There was unabated interest in both ends of the Capitol to-day in the Maine disaster, but expressions generally took the shape of inquiry for new light upon the subject and of demands for a most

The present disposition, especially about the Senate, appears to be to allow matter to rest where it is until more light

The disaster to the Maine has aroused in favor of extreme liberality in appropriations for the naval and military es-tablishments, the practical result of which amendments increasing the appropriations for fortifications about \$4,000,000, the into the mistake of supposing the outlet authorization in the naval bill of two battleships, instead of one, and possibly the authorization of the dry-dock scheme recommended by the Dry-Dock Board appointed by the Secretary of the Navy. The recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy was for only one addition

Probably the board will be conveyed to Habana from Key West by the Olivette or one of the light-house tenders, as it is pressed themselves as in favor of buildin the Naval Committee, but most of the ing a ship to replace the Maine and also of authorizing the ship recommended by the Secretary of the Navy.

A parliamentary question has arisen in regard to the provision for the dry-docks in the naval appropriation bill, which may keep such provisions out of the bill in the House. Two rulings of presiding officers, in Committee of the Whole, du-ring the consideration of the naval appropriation bills, are against the incor-poration of appropriations for dry-docks The whole dry-tock scheme, it is estimated, will post in the neighborhood of

FOR MAINE VICTIM'S FAMILIES. It is probable that the families of the victims of the Maine disaster will be cared for by the government, as were the survivors of those who were lost in the Samoan hurricane, several years ago. when fifty-four American officers and sailors were lost from the Nipsic, Van-Calla, and Trenton, which were wrecked

Representative McClellan, of New

York, introduced a joint resolution, ap-

propriating \$150,000 for this purpose in the House to-day, as follows: 'Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives, That the Secretary of the Navy be, and he is hereby, directed to pay out of any money in the treasury not otherwise provided, a sum equal to twelve months' pay to the legal heirs or epresentatives of each of the officers and crew of the United States steamship Maine, who perished in the

Habana February 15, 1898, and the sum of \$10,000, or so much thereof as may be ne-

cessary, is appropriated to carry out the provisions of this act." A special act of similar tenor was passed for the relief of the victims of the Samoan disaster. It is not customary to grant pensions to the widows or cr phans of soldiers or sailors who die in time of peace, but Congress, in view of the extraordinary circumstances will, undoubtecly, be quick to grant the relief proposed by Mr. McClellan.

SYMPATHY FROM ABROAD.

Condolence of Foreign Powers With the United States.

A number of messages have been re ceived at the State Department from foreign governments, expressing regret in connection with the Maine disaster, Among them are the following:

"Secretary of State,-I have the honor to inform you that I am commanded by the Queen to convey to the President the expression of her Majesty's sympathy with the American people on the occasion of the sad disaster which has befallen their navy by the loss of the battleship Maine, and of so many members of her crew. I request that you will be good enough to transmit the above message to

its high destination. "I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration, sir, your most obedient,

humble servant. (Signed) "JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE." "SANTIAGO DE CUBA, February 17.— Received 11:45 A. M.—Day, Washington: Archbishop Saens expresses sympathy for Maine disaster.

"Legation of the Republic of Haiti-

Secretary of State: The news of the sac accident which has befallen the Maine has deeply touched me, and I beg leave to express my condolence and sympathy with the families of the unfortunate vic-

'My government cannot fail to feel deep concern on account of the loss which the United States have just experienced. Be pleased to accept, Mr. Secretary of State the assurances of my highest consideraon. J. N. LEGER."
"Berlin-President of the United States

Washington: Let me express my sincere sympathy to you and your country at the terrible loss of the Maine and the death of so many brave officers and men o your navy. WILIAM, I. R. "Legation of the Greater Republic of

Central America-I have received instructions from the Diet of the Greater Re public of Central America to inform the Supreme Government of the United States of America, through your Excellency, that both it and the governments of the States which compose that republic feel profound regret on account of the disester which befell the Maine night before last in the port of Habana. In obeying these instructions I take pleasure in re-newing to you, Mr. Secretary, the assurances of my highest consideration.
"LOUIS F. COREA."

BRITISH ADMIRALTY. "LONDON, February 17.—Sherman, Sec-retary, Washington: The First Lord of the Admiralty requests me to express the

(CONCLUDED ON THIRD PAGE.)

FIGHT OVER

PRECIPITATES A CONTEST. SENATOR MASON WILL RESIGN.

The Toga to Be Laid Aside for the Ermine-Bill for a Free Press-The

Delegate Gwyn, of Smyth, is very ac tive in his opposition to the bill for the protection of fish in the Holston river, in Smyth county. The aim of the bill is to prevent the refuse from the Mathieson Alkali-Works, at Saltville, being dumpe into the river, as this is said to kill the fish, as well as to render the water below the works unfit for drinking or laundry purposes. Mr. Gwyn says he doesn't want to destroy the fish, particularly, though he doesn't believe there are many of them, but he would rather see all of them go than do anything to embarrass

pight, "those people work from 600 to 800 men, and that their pay-roll every month amounts to from \$20,000 to \$25,000. The company has about \$3,000,000 invested there, and turns out every day about 150 quantity of soda and ash. The works consume 500 tons of coal and 200 tons of limestone every day, besides more salt-water than you would believe, if I were to tell you. You know caustic potest is the basis of concentrated lye; the Lord only knows what soda ash is. There are few works of this kind in the world, and these have been of immense value to my section. I am willing to let them kill every fish in the river, if they want to every fish in the river, if they want to I never fish, except when I carry the bail in a jug, and I believe that's the way most of the people do their fishing out there. I'm going to fight to the bitterest there. I'm going to fight to the bitterest the bill that proposes to embarrass those people without good cause, otherwise you'll have them pulling up and locating somewhere else

THE TOGA FOR THE ERMINE. Senator John E. Mason, of King George will resign his seat in the Senate Tuesday to enter upon his duties as Judge of the Tenth Judicial Circuit, to which position he was elected a few weeks ago.

Judge Mason will hold his first court in Caroline county March 10th. He says business has greatly accumulated in every county of the circuit, owing to the prolonged filmess of Judge Barton, which finally resulted in his death. Consequently, Judge Mason does not anticipate much of a restful change by reason of laying aside the toga for the ermine. He has been in the General Assembly as delegat and senator for nine years, and in activ He says he will be glad to get out of th hurly-burly, but that he may want to mix in the fray again. Quien sabe? FOR A FREE PRESS.

"I believe in an absolutely free pres about as much as in free religion and speech," said Senator McIlwaine, regard ing the following bill which he redently introduced in the Senate:

"Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia, That the councils of any incorporated city or town or board of supervisors of any county in this State shall not require a license to be obtained, for the pricings of the council of the county in the county in the county in the council of the county in the c the privilege or right of printing or pub lishing any newspaper in said towns, or counties. But this act shall in no manner be construed so as to exempt those so engaged in the publication newspapers from the payment of a upon the plant, machinery, capital, other property so used in such business; or upon the income derived therefrom."

The action of the City Council of Nor folk in imposing a license-tax upon the newspapers of that city aroused a great deal of comment, and excited widespread sisted payment, but in the Court peals it was decided that it was w the jurisolction of the Council to levy such tax. Senator McIlwaine's bill, which was reported favorably yesterday,

THE ACCOMAC JUDGESHIP. A new candidate has entered the field for the judgeship of the County Court of Accomac, in the person of Mr. George Parramore, one of the best-known lawers of the county. The pressure being Delegate from Accomac-Messrs LeCate and Matthews, respectively-to endorse one of the various candidates, is very strong, and as was laughingly said yes terday, they can't hold out much longe They will probably reach a decision in short while. It is not unlikely that on or two other legislators from the Eastern Shore will be called in to help seleca candidate to place before the caucus. It is understood that an agreement has been reached, whereby the fight will be settled outside of the caucus.

FIX THE BOUNDARY LINE. The message which the Governor cent to the Legislature yesterday regarding the boundary between Virginia and Maryland contained the findings of the legislative commissions of the two States appointed two years ago to lay down the exact boundary line in Pocomeke Sound Accomac county. This had been unset tled for some years, and it was desired to have it fixed for police purposes. This the commission has done.

WILL GO TO WILLIAMSBURG. The House Committee on Schools and Colleges and the Senate Committee or es and the Senate Committee or Institutions and Education will go to Williamsburg and Hampton to-day to visit William and Mary College, the Eastern State Hospital, and the Norma Eastern State Hospital, and the committees will run down—also, a number of Senators and Delegates not members. The party expects to return to-night.

SALARIES OF EXAMINERS The Senate Finance Committee yester day decided that Mr. Willard's House bil mending the law under which sp Circuit-Court examiners now act, and the substitute of Judge Watkins, should be made the special order for next Tuesday at 16 A. M., when Mr. Willard and Judge Watkins will appear. Mr. Willard and Judge Watkins will appear. Mr. Willard prefers the substitute of Judge Watkins, which provides an examiner for each county, instead of for each circuit, as at present, but says if either measure is adopted, it will correspond to the county of th ill carry retrenchment where the size of salaries absolutely demand it.

The House Committee on Militia and Police yesterday decided to report favor-ably the Senate bill which reduces the term of enlistment in the Virginia volun teers from five to three years.

POLICE ASSOCIATION ORGANIZES. Major B, F. Howard Elected Presideni-Other Officers Chosen.

The Legislature having incorporated the Police Benevolent Association of Richmond, the Board of Directors of the organization met yesterday afternoon at 5 o'clock to elect officers and perfect an organization.

The board is composed of the following

The board is composed of the following gentlemen: First District-Captain W. L. Thomas, Sergeant G. H. Matthews, Louis Werner, and James H. Krouse. Second District-Captain J. B. Angle, Sergeant District—Captain J. B. Angie, Sergeant J. A. Cosby, T. J. Wren, R. B. Sowell, M. J. Griffin. Third District—Sergeant A. R. Cousins, B. A. Pillow, H. A. Amos, J. H. Thomas, J. M. Saie, and Major B. F.

The board elected Major Howard president; Sergeant A. R. Cousins, vice-president; Captain J. B. Angle, secretary, and Captain W. L. Thomas, treasurer. The object of the association is

vide by assessments upon its active members a fund for defraying the funeral expenses of deceased members of the Police Department of Richmond, and the wives of such members, and to accumulate a fund to provide for the maintenance and appropriate of members of the nance and support of members of the Police Department who shall be retired by reason of sickness, old age, wounds, and other infirmities.

The different grades of membership are

life, contributing, and active. The active members are the members of the Police members are the members of the Point-Department, and only those members shall receive the pecuniary benefits of the association. The Mayor, police surgeon, members, and clerk of the Board of Police Commissioners are 2x-officionembers, and may vote and hold office in the association, but they cannot be assessed or share in any of its benefits. The association may hold one acre of real estate in Richmond, or 100 acres

THEIR FRANCHISE FORFEITED.

elsewhere in the State.

Home Electric Company Fails to Make the Required Deposit.

The franchise of the Home Electric Company, recently granted by the City peal for funds with which to continue the Council, has been forfeited by the fail- prosecution of Sheriff Martin and his ure of the corporation to comply with deputies. The money donated just after that clause of the ordinance, which pro- the strike for this purpose has all been vides that within thirty days after the approval of the franchise the sum of witnesses here, for attorney's fees, and 5.000 should be deposited with the City | for the expenses incidental to arranging

S. Harwood is the president of the Home Company and Mr. Wirt E. Taylor is the The Southern Electric Company, which

was given a franchise at the same time as the Home, has deposited with the Treasurer \$4,000 in United States bonds and \$1.000 in the bonds of the city of

MAY NOT HAVE WOMEN NOTARIES. The Governor Has Not Signed the Bill-More Applications.

The Governor has not yet signed the bill allowing women to serve as notaries, nor is it certain that he will do so. It has been urged that the bill is unconstitutional, in that a woman, if appointed a notary, would be an office-holder, though not a voter, and the Constitution says the qualifications for each shall be Should be sign the bill and appoint the

first applicant, Miss Lula O'Connor, the stenographer of the Mutual Guaranty Company, No. 1015 east Main street, would enjoy the distinction of being the first woman who ever held a State office in Virginia. Meanwhile, the girls continue to apply

for appointment. Applications were received yesterday from Miss G. B. Hunter, of Richmond, and Miss Josephine S. Yeatman, of Christiansburg. MR. MOODY IN RICHMOND.

He and His Wife Stop En Route to the Land of Flowers. Rev. Dwight L. Moody, the great evangelist who held such a fine meeting here a few years ago, spent a half-hour in

Richmond last night. He and Mrs. Moody were en route from the far North to Florida, where the world-renowned Bible student goes for a reason of rest. They did not leave Byrd-Street Station, and spent most of their

short stay at the supper-table.

Perhaps the only Richmond man with whom Mr. Moody talked was Secretary McKee, of the Young Men's Christian Association. The latter received a tele-gram in the afternoon asking him to meet Mr. Moody, and he did so The two has a pleasant chat about matters in which both are interested. was looking quite well, and referred very pleasantly to his meetings in Richmond.

HAS HAD NO CALL FOR TROOPS.

Governor Could Send His Staff and Fifty Female Notaries. A rumor was in circulation in New

York, at least, last night, to the effect that President McKinley had asked the Governors of the various States to notify him at once of the number of volunteer troops they could furnish at once, and how soon they could be mobilized. Governor Tyler said he had received no such communication from the President, and it is to be presumed that the same is true of the executives of all the other

"I should have to consult with Adjuant-General Nalle, in order to give the President the information suggested," said the Governor, "but I can inform him now that I can send him my whole staff and fifty women notaries at an hour's no

United States Flag at Half-Mast.

In the absence of any official order to the contrary, "Old Glory" was run to the top of the mast over the United States building yesterday. The press dispatches building yesterday. The press dispatches stated that President McKinley had given orders that the flag should be half-masted on all national buildings, but Custodian Bethel decided that he was in duty bound to wait for an order. It came in the afternoon, and reads as follows, Washington, D. C., February 17, 1888.

"To Collector of Customs, Richmond, Va. "Display flag at half-mast until further orders, in respect for those killed by the explosion on the battleship Maine. "L. J. GAGE, Secretary."

Miss Julia Berry Married.

Mr. W. S. Stubbs, of Centreville, Md. and Miss Julia Lee Berry, of Richmond were married yesterday morning at the nce of Rev. Dr. W. G. Starr ment of the Quaker church, on Clay and Mrs. Stubbs will continue to

Measured for a New Uniform.

The members of the First Regimen for the new uniforms. According to th terms of the contract, the uniforms are to be delivered within sixty days of the date on which the measurements are taken. Personals and Briefs.

Mr. J. M. Fourqurean has gone to Fiorida on a business trip.

Mr. Charles G. Thompson is quite ill at his residence, 1003 West avenue. The farmers' running race at the Exposition-Grounds on Wednesday was won

by Mr. J. E. Reynolds's Marble in 2:07. The Central Union, W. C. T. U., will hold the regular meeting at the Home for Incurables at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon.

Rev. Dr. Starr preached at the alms-house last night to a large, and apprecia-tive audience. The Doctor's sermon was said to be excellent. Rev. W. B. Beauchamp left for Lancas

ter county, Va., yesterday, whither he was called by a telegram announcing the critical illness of his mother. Mrs. Robert G. Scott, Mrs. W. H. Per-

kins, and Miss Beile Perkins have re-turned to Richmond from Washington, and are staying at the Mt. Vernon. Acca Temple's meeting will be held next Thursday night instead of to-night, as announced. A number of candidates are expected to cross the sands at this meet-

expected to cross the sands at this meeting.

Lovers of dry champagne appreciate the remarkable vintage of G. H. Mumm's Extra Dry now coming to this country. Its importation in 1897 aggregated 72.775 where he lectures before the students at

the State Agricultural College, by invita-

In addition to the list of delegates pubin addition to the instance in the lished in yesterday's Dispatch. Messrs. C. B. Richardson, and R. J. Willingham. Jr. will attend the State Young Men's Christian Association Convention, now in session in Lynchburg.

A book on electric power, in which was an application for a charter for an elec-tric railway in the counties of Culpeper, Warren, Rappahannock, and Spotsyl-vania, was found last night and taken to

the First Police Station. Richmonders in New York. NEW YORK, February 17.—(Special.)— C. E. Burk, Gerlach; J. S. Williams, Waldorf; J. F. Orndorff, Imperial; C. E. D. Burtis, Astor; J. Lyons, St. Denis; R. L. Traylor, Manhattan.

THE LATTIMER CASE.

Prosecuting Committee Will Make Another Appeal for Funds.

WILKESBARRE, PA., February 17 .-The prosecuting committee in the Lattimer shooting case will make another ap-

Treasurer.

The time limit indicated expired on Wednesday night, and Mr. Phillips is day, testined regarding the intention of now debarred from receiving the money, even should it be tendered. Colonel John standing in the roud at West Hazieton when one of the deputies said to him: "You had better get off the road; you may get hurt. We are going to shoot, That's the Sheriff's orders." "Shoot away," said the man, "if you see me do anything wrong.

Angelo Matz, the first Italian to testify in the case, said he was gathering rags on the day of the shooting and met the strikers. The witness's story of the shooting did not differ from the testimony o the other witness until toward the end, said: "Just after the big volley was fired I saw a wounded striker near me trying to get on his feet, and a deputy ran over and pumped several shots into his back, killing him."

Another wounded man, Andrew Yesmot said he was running away when he shot twice, one bullet being still in his hip and the other passing through his eg near the knee, breaking it. He was twelve weeks in the hospital. John Dolley said he was wounded in the

back while running away at Lattimer. George Gasperick had to be carried into court on a big chair by four men. He is still suffering from a wound received at Lattimer. His arms and legs are paralyzed. The builet which entered his head just over the right ear is still embedded there. He said: "I started to run, and had gone but a few steps when I received a bullet in my head."

ZOLA-PERRIEUX TRIAL. General Pellieux Causes a Sensa-

tion Among Army Men. PARIS, February 17.-The usual crowds

assembled at the Assize Court of the Seine to-day, the tenth day of the trial of Emile Zola and M. Perrieux, manager of the Aurore, for reflecting upon the conduct of the Esterhazy court-mar-

rore, asked the court to order the Minis-try of War to produce the original "bor-dereau" which figured in the Dreyfus trial, but the presiding judge replied that it was impossible. Counsel for the defence then examined M. Moriaud, stenographer, and the latter confirmed the statements that Major Esterifizy was the writer of the "bordereau." Pro-tessor Giry, of the Record office, affirmed that the writing of Major Esternazy and that of the "bordereau" bore a striking resemblance. Colonel Picquart, who was recalled

with reference to a statement made by General Pellieux, declared that Major Esternazy could easily have acquired the information contained in the "bordereau." The General had maintained that only an artillery officer could have known at 3 o'clock. the facts referred to.

General Gonze, who was also recalled, maintained the contrary.

maintained the contrary.

In the course of the proceedings General Pellieux declared that a long time after the condemnation of Dreyfus the Minister of War acquired new proof, previously unknown, of his guilt. This proof the General added was in a conproof, the General added, was in a note, "Never say you have had rereading: "Never say lations with this Jew."

The revelation made by General Pellieux caused the greatest sensation among the military men, who expressed regret at the fact that the General should be "forced by attacks on the army to reveal matter which should be kept secret."

TERRIBLE CRIME IN GEORGIA. Three Negroes Said to Have Burned

a White Girl to Death. ATLANTA, GA., February 17 .- A letter was received yesterday by Gove Atkinson, from Sheriff Patterson, Decatur county, giving the bare facts regarding the efforts of three unknown garding the emotis of three unknown negroes, one day last week, to burn to death the daughter of James Alday, a prominent citizen of a district remote from telegraphic facilities in Decatur

From all accounts it appears that the girl, who is about 16 years of age, had oc-casion to go to a spring about 200 yards from her father's house. Returning through a dense thicket she was seized by three strange negroes. When they dis-covered she was the daughter of Alday, two of them held her, while the third apolied matches to the skirts of her cloth ing. She was detained until the flames were licking her face, and then released and ordered to fly for her life. She ran screaming to her father's foor, where she arrived with not 2 shred of clothing on her body, and literally one huge bilson her body. Every effort was made to save her lire, but the latest reports from the place indicated that her death was hour-ly expected. The Sheriff is making every effort to discover the negroes.

The Governor is investigating the affair,

and it is very probable a large reward will be offered for the apprehension of the FEDERAL ATTORNEY REMOVED.

North Carolinian Claims Civil-Service Protection.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February II.— (Special.)—The Attorney-General to-day ordered the removal of Assistant-Distriet-Attorney Covington, of the Western North Carolina District. Mr. Covington was asked to resign, but he declin the ground that the assistant attorneyship is protected by the civil-service law. Spencer Blackburn will be appointed to fill the vacancy. Mr. Covington says he will contest the appointment in the Colonel H. C. Jones, of Charlotte, N. C., was at the Department of Justice to-

day, urging the pardon of A. M. Pollard, late cashier of the First National Back of Charlotte. Pollard is now serving a ten-year sentence in the Albany penten-tiary. His health is completely wrecked, and it is apprehended that he cannot live many months. The petition for his and it is apprenied apprenied to the pardon is sixued by nearly all the citizens of Charlotte, except the bank officers.
Colonel Jones expects to see the President to-morrow, and hopes to secure Pollard's pardon. Dry Champagnes.

BRANCH ALLEN DEAD

THIS WELL-KNOWN CITIZEN DIES IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

WENT IN SEARCH OF HEALTH.

Grew Steadily Worse Until the End

Finally Came-A Successful Merchant, Councilman, and Zealous Christian-Other Deaths.

Mr. Branch R. Allen, the well-known councilman from Marshall Ward, died yesterday morning at 8 o'clock at Summerville, S. C., whither he had gone in search of health. This aunouncement, though it will prove

sad news to the hosts of friends of the popular young man, will not come in the nature of a surprise, for it was well known to all of them that his health was failing rapidly, and that he could live but a short while at best.

Mr. Allen was a sufferer from that dread disease, consumption, and though he fought nobly against it, the insidious maindy gradually sapped his vitality until death came to his relief. Mr. Allen went hast summer to the Red Sulphur Springs, and returned home apparently much benefited by his trip, but he soon began to fail in health again and some time ago he went to Summerville, S. C., for a change of air. His family were sum-moned there several days ago, when it became apparent that he could not survive much longer.
HIS BUSINESS LIFE.

Mr. Allen lived with his mother, Mrs

R. J. Allen, at their bome, No. 2705 east Broad street, and was engaged in the retail tobacco and soda-water business Main street, operating at the time of his death two stores in the business sec tion. During his entire life, until ill health assailed him, deceased had been a hard worker and kept pace with all the improvements in his business. He was a true Christian gentleman, and was possessed of a host of friends. He was a member of Leigh-Street Baptist church, and served that congregation in the enpacity of superintendent of its Sunday school. He was exceedingly charitable

to those in need, and though unostenta-tions, always liberal in his gifts.

In his earlier life Mr. Allen conducted, in partnership with an uncle, a wholesale confectionery business in Petersburg, which he gave up when he moved to Richmond and established himself at Fourteenth and Main streets. Meeting with success in his enterprise at that stand, he opened a cigar store and soda stand, he opened a eight store and some fountain in a portion of Polk Miller's store, at the corner of Ninth and Main streets, but about 'welve months ago closed out this branch and opened a magnificent eigar and refreshment stand ower down on the block.

ELECTED WITHOUT SOLICITATION. Though, not in the strict sense of the term a politician, Mr. Allen took considerable interest in municipal affairs, and without any solicitation on his part, his friends in Marshall Ward elected him to membership in the Common Counci ber of that body at the time of his deat Deceased is survived, bestdes his mother, by two brothers—Messrs. L. C. Allen and Harry C. Allen—both of this city, and Mrs. E. C. Sutherland, of

Church Hill. No arrangements had been made for the funeral last night. OTHER DEATHS.

Mr. Benjamin S. Bauehn diad costery day morning at 19 of 28k, at 15 restidence, in Hearleo, in the Sist year of his age. The funeral will take place from the residence this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Mrs. Fannie A. Goddin, wife of Mr. Morgan H. Goddin, died yesterday at her home, No. 1263 north Twenty-ninth street, at 1:39 o'clock. The funeral will take place from the residence this afternoon, at 3 o'clock.

NOMINATIONS BY THE PRESIDENT.

Two Marine Hospital Surgeons from Virginia.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 17 .-The President to-day sent to the Senate the nomination of John T. Williams, or North Carolina, to be Consul at Sierra

Leons, Africa.

To be assistant surgeons, Marine Hospital Service: J. F. Anderson, Visginia; L. Lumsden, Virginia.

Mine Disnster in Prussia.

BOCHUM, PRUSSIA, February 17 .- A terrible explasion of fire-damp occurred in the Vereinigte Caloningiusek calliery at Hamm, early this morning. This seven bodies have been recovered. addition, many miners have been seriously injured. It is believed that fifty

persons have perished. MARDI GRAS.

New Orleans, La.; Mobile, Ala., and Birmingham, Ala., February 22,

1898. A rate of one first-class limited fare for the round-trip, to New Orleans, La.; Mobile, Alo., and Birmingham, Ala., is offered by the Southern railway from all points on its line, to those wishing to attend these grand festivals, which

to attend these grand restivats, when occur each year. Tickets on sale February 18th to 21st, inclusive, final limit returning March 5, 1898.

Not only does the Southern railway offer this very low rate to all who wish to go, but it also offers the shortest and quickest route, most convenient schedules, and comfortable accommodations. The Southern has double daily tions. The Southern has double daily trains running between all points on its line in this section, and the above points where the festival will be held. These trains are composed of the very latest and most handsome design of Pullman sleeping-cars and Southern railway dining-cars and coaches.

Complete information as to schedules, sleeping-car reservations, etc., will be cheerfully furnished upon application by any agent of the Southern railway; Richmond Transfer Company, 83 east Main street, or C. W. Westbury, Travelling Passenger Agent, 220 east Main The Southern has double

Agent, 920 east Main ling Passenger Ages street, Richmond, Va.

If the Baby Is Cutting Teeth be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for diarrhoen. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

Old papers for sale at the Dispatch

The Weather. WASHINGTON, February 17 .-

Forecast for Friday: For Virginia-Increasing cloudtness and probably light rain; warmer; southeasterly winds.

For North Carolina-Light rains; warmer; northeasterly to Southeast winds. THE WEATHER IN RICHMOND

YESTERDAY was clear and colder. State of thermometer:

12 night